

Message Text

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45

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 L-03 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 ACDA-19

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R 281115 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5628

UNCLAS KATHMANDU 2792

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: NP, PARM

SUBJECT: GON REACTION TO AGREEMENT ON PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR

REF: STATE 122214

1. EMBASSY DELIVERED TEXT SUBJECT AGREEMENT TO MFA
JUNE 23.

2. IN LETTER TO CHARGE JUNE 27, RANKING MFA JOINT
SECRETARY ACKNOWLEDGED RECEIPT, STATING " HIS MAJESTY' S
GOVERNMENT HAVE STUDIED THE AGREEMENT WITH GREAT
INTEREST; THEY WELCOME IT."

3. INCLUDED WAS STATEMENT MFA SPOKESMAN, AS FOLLOWS:
QUOTE H. M. G. WELCOME THE AGREEMENT IN SO FAR AS IT IS A
SOLEMN UNDERTAKING ON THE PART OF THE TWO GREAT NUCLEAR POWERS
TO REFRAIN FROM THE THREAT OR USE OF FORCE, TO AVOID MILITARY
CONFRONTATIONS AND TO EXCLUDE THE OUTBREAK OF NUCLEAR
WAR BETWEEN THEM AND BETWEEN EITHER OF THE PARTIES
AND OTHER COUNTRIES. IT REFLECTS WILLINGNESS ON
THE PART OF THE BIG POWERS, TO EXERCISE SELF-
RESTRAINT AND TO REMOVE THE DANGERS OF THE NUCLEAR
WAR.

QUOTE AS SUCH THE AGREEMENT IS A POSITIVE STEP
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FORWARD TO THE PRESERVATION OF INTERNATIONAL PEACE
AND SECURITY. END QUOTE.

4. STATEMENT WAS FRONT- PAGED SEMI- OFFICIAL
RISING NEPAL SAME DAY AND WIDELY CARRIED PRIVATE PRESS.

5. PORTION OF JUNE 28 RISING NEPAL EDITORIAL (FULLER
TEXT BY USINFO) DEALING WITH AGREEMENT READS AS FOLLOWS:
QUOTE IF MANY OF THESE AGREEMENTS HAVE A MORE OR LESS
BILATERAL SIGNIFICANCE, THE UNDERSTANDING REACHED
BETWEEN THE TWO ON PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR, THOUGH
WATERED DOWN CONSIDERABLY BY RESTRICTIVE CLAUSES,
NEVERTHELESS HAS CLEAR AND WEIGHTY INTERNATIONAL
IMPLICATIONS. OF PARTICULAR NOTE HERE IS PROVISION
IN THE AGREEMENT FOR ' URGENT CONSULTATIONS' BETWEEN
THE TWO BIG POWERS NOT ONLY WHERE THERE IS A RISK OF
NUCLEAR CONFLICT BETWEEN ONE OF THEM AND A THIRD
POWER BUT ALSO ' IF RELATIONS BETWEEN COUNTRIES NOT
PARTY TO THIS AGREEMENT APPEAR TO INVOLVE THE RISK OF
NUCLEAR WAR BETWEEN THE US AND USSR.' THIS ASSUMES
CONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE AS IT CAN BE INTERPRETED TO
COVER XZCST CONTEMPORARY CRISES INCLUDING VIETNAM ,
THE INDO- PAK CONFLICT OR WEST ASIA, COVERED ONE WAY
OR ANOTHER, BY THE SYSTEM OF ALLIANCES AND TREATIES
THAT BOTH THE SUPER POWERS HAVE BOZQLT. IT IS HARDLY
SURPRISING THEREFORE, THAT THIS AGREEMENT HAS BEEN
GENERALLY WELCOMED AS A POSITIVE STEP TOWARDS
THE PRESERVATION OF WORLD PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL

SECURITY, AS HMG HAS DONE. END QUOTE.
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